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STATE OF ILLINOIS

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June 1, 2010

A Preview of Changes to Come on *JULY 1, 2010*

Following is a brief preview of changes to the Campaign Disclosure Act which will be effective on July 1, 2010. A new brochure entitled *Important Changes to Illinois Disclosure Law (effective July 1, 2010)* is available on our website, as are the changes to the law effective July 1, 2010.

January 1, 2011, will bring many more changes such as the implementation of election cycles and contribution limits; the replacement of pre-election reports and semi-annual reports with quarterly reports; year-round Schedule A-1s with a \$1000 threshold; independent expenditure reports during the 30 days prior to an election; Board ordered audits; and recordkeeping changes.

Watch for future mailings. Look for information on our website at www.elections.il.gov.

Re-designation of Political Committees (5/9-2) (effective July 1, 2010)

Every political committee that is currently designated as a State, Local, or State and Local Political Committee, must re-designate itself as a (1) Candidate Political Committee, (2) Political Party Committee, (3) Political Action Committee, or (4) Ballot Initiative Committee by December 31, 2010. The type of Committee will determine the election cycle and contribution limits under which it will be operating beginning January 1, 2011. The process of re-designation will begin July 1st.

A new D-1 Form and additional information will be available on our website by July 1st. In addition to the mailing and faxing of a D-1, you will also be able to attach and e-mail it to D1@elections.il.gov. A sponsoring entity is no longer required to be included in a committee name, but its name and address must be listed on the D-1. The penalty for delinquent filing a D-1 will increase from \$25 per business day to \$50 per business day. If created within 30 days prior to an election, the D-1 must be filed within 2 business days, rather than 5 business days.

Electioneering Communication (5/9-1.14) (effective July 1, 2010)

The definition changed to include only broadcast, cable, and satellite communications, such as radio, television, or internet. Printed materials, such as newspapers, are excluded from the definition. The communication must also be targeted to a relevant electorate and be a clear appeal to vote for or against a candidate or ballot question.

Independent Expenditures (5/9-8.6) (effective July 1, 2010)

An independent expenditure is any expenditure made for electioneering communications or expressly advocating for or against a candidate or public official, provided the spending is not made in connection (in any way) with a candidate or his committee. An independent expenditure is not considered a contribution.

A natural person making independent expenditures of \$3000 or more supporting or opposing a candidate or public official will be required to file a written disclosure with the Board of Elections within 2 business days.

Any entity other than a natural person spending more than \$3000 in aggregate during a 12-month period supporting or opposing a public official or candidate, must file as a political committee.